

An ordinance for the better distribution of prizes in certain cases.

An **ORDINANCE** for the better Distribution of Prizes in certain Cases.

BE it ordained by the united states in congress assembled, that so much of the Ordinance, entitled “An Ordinance, ascertaining what captures on water shall be lawful,” as ordains, that upon the capture of a vessel commissioned as a man of war or a privateer, by any of the vessels of war of the united states of America, the whole of the property condemned shall be adjudged to the captors, be and the same is hereby repealed; and that in all such cases of capture the whole of the property condemned shall be adjudged to the use of the captors, if the vessel taken shall be of equal or superior force to the vessel making the capture; if otherwise, one half only shall be adjudged to the captors, and the other half to the use of the united states, and shall, after condemnation, be so appropriated; unless the united states in congress, assembled, in reward of distinguished valour and exertion, shall otherwise specially direct.

And be it further ordained by the authority aforesaid, that the resolution of the 15th day of November, 1776, giving to the commanders, officers and men of ships or vessels of war, a bounty for every cannon and for every man belonging to British ships or vessels of war captured by them, be and the same is hereby repealed.

Done by the united states in congress assembled, the 10th day of July, in the year of Our Lord, 1782, and in the seventh year of our independence. Attest. JOHN HANSON, President. CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.